

Indus Kohistani

Indus Kohistani (*Kōstāī*) is a Dardic language spoken in part of the Indus valley in Kohistan District, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, Pakistan. The language was referred to as **Maiyā** (Mayon) or **Shuthun** by early researchers, but subsequent observations have not verified that these names are known locally.^[3] It is also known as **Abasin Kohistani**.

Contents
Phonology
Vowels
Consonants
See also
References
Bibliography

Phonology

The phonology of Indus Kohistani varies between its major dialects as shown below.^[4]

Vowels

	<u>Front</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>Back</u>
<u>Close</u>	i iː		u uː
<u>Mid</u>	e eː		o oː
<u>Open</u>		a aː	

In the Kanyawali dialect, the back vowels /u/ and /o/ are described as variants of each other, as are the front vowels /i/ and /e/.

Consonants

The consonant inventory of Indus Kohistani is shown in the chart below. (Consonants particular to the Kanyawali Dialect of Tangir and those found only in the Kohistan Dialects are color-coded respectively.)

Indus Kohistani	
	Maiyā
	<i>Kōstāī</i>
Region	Kohistan
Ethnicity	Kohistani
Native speakers	(200,000 cited 1992) ^[1]
Language family	Indo-European <div>▪ Indo-Iranian<div>▪ Indo-Aryan<div>▪ Dardic<div>▪ Kohistani<div>▪ Indus Kohistani</div></div></div></div></div>
Writing system	Arabic script
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	mvy
Glottolog	indu1241 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/indu1241) ^[2]

		<u>Labial</u>	<u>Coronal</u>	<u>Retroflex</u>	<u>Palatal</u>	<u>Velar</u>	<u>Uvular</u>	<u>Glottal</u>
<u>Nasal</u>	<u>Voiced</u>	m	n	ɳ				
	<u>Breathy Voiced</u>	(m ^h)						
<u>Stop</u>	<u>Voiceless</u>	p	t	ʈ		k	(q)	
	<u>Aspirated</u>	p ^h	t ^h	ʈ ^h		k ^h		
	<u>Voiced</u>	b	d	ɖ		g		
	<u>Breathy Voiced</u>	b ^h	d ^h	ɖ ^h		g ^h		
<u>Affricate</u>	<u>Voiceless</u>		ts	tʂ	tʃ			
	<u>Aspirated</u>		ts ^h		tʃ ^h			
	<u>Voiced</u>				dʒ			
<u>Fricative</u>	<u>Voiceless</u>	f	s	ʂ	ʃ	x		h
	<u>Voiced</u>	v	z	ʐ	ʒ	ɣ		
<u>Lateral</u>			l					
<u>Rhotic</u>	<u>Voiced</u>		r	ɽ				
	<u>Breathy Voiced</u>		r ^h	ɽ ^h				
<u>Semivowel</u>					j	w		

The phonemes /x/, /ɣ/, and /q/ are mainly found in loan words. The status of /q/ in the Kanyawali Dialect is unclear.

See also

- Kohistan District, Pakistan
- Kohistani people

References

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